

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS 12-31-81
TAGS: MCAF, NATO
SUBJECT: EWG MEETING NOV 13 ON BASIC ISSUES OF DEFENSE PLANNING

REF: A. USNATO 4520
B. STATE 222718
C. USNATO 5235

SUMMARY. DURING MEETING NOV 13 EWG DISCUSSED DRAFT REPORT ON BASIC ISSUES OF DEFENSE PLANNING. CHAIRMAN (PANSA) CITED CONSIDERABLE SCOPE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT REPORT SUBMITTED BY US AND UK AND REQUESTED THEY COORDINATE A JOINT REVISION PROPOSAL FOR CONSIDERATION BY EWG ON 16 NOV. CHAIRMAN SUGGESTED THAT US/UK PROPOSAL BALANCE QUEST FOR POSITIVE RECOMMENDATIONS AGAINST CLEAR NEED FOR FURTHER STUDY AND ANALYSIS.

1. AIRCRAFT SHELTERS. UK-PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO DRAFT REPORT ON AIRCRAFT SHELTERS WERE CIRCULATED ON NOV 9 (REFTEL A) AND RECEIVED GENERAL SUPPORT FROM EWG REPS, PARTICULARLY NORWAY, GERMANY, DENMARK AND MILITARY COMMITTEE. WASHINGTON ANALYSIS SUPPORTING US POSITION ON AIRCRAFT SHELTERS (REFTEL B) WAS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CAREFUL STUDY/CONSULTATION WITH NATIONAL AUTHORITIES BY EWG REPS. STRONG SUPPORT VOICE FOR UK POSITION WILL GIVE CON-
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SIDERABLE LEVERAGE TO UK DURING FORMULATION OF JOINT US-UK PRO-
POSAL FOR AMENDING BASIC ISSUES PAPER.

2. ANTI-ARMOR. US PROPOSAL ON ANTI-ARMOR (REFTEL C) MET WITH

GENERAL APPROVAL FROM SHAPE AND GERMAN REPS. ITALIAN AND UK REPS STATED THAT US PROPOSAL WAS TOO SPECIFIC IN ITS RECOMMENDATIONS. CHAIRMAN SUMMARIZED ANTI-ARMOR DISCUSSION BY SUGGESTING THAT US-UK JOINT PROPOSAL BE LESS RIGID/SPECIFIC ABOUT TARGET DATES AND WEAPONS SYSTEMS PENDING COMPLETION OF THE SPRING AD-70 REVIEW. SHAPE REP AGREED THAT TARGET DATES MAY PRESENT A PROBLEM, BUT REMINDED EWG THAT WEAPON SYSTEM PROPOSALS HAD EXISTED FOR SOME TIME AND WERE NOT ORIGINAL WITH US PROPOSAL.

3. WAR RESERVES. IN BRIEF DISCUSSION OF WAR RESERVES, SHAPE REP EMPHASIZED CONTINUING INTEREST IN STOCK LEVELS, PARTICULARLY AMMO ITEMS. SHAPE REP FURTHER STATED THAT A COMPLETED CRITICAL ITEMS LIST WOULD BE OFFERED BY SHAPE DURING SPRING OF 1974.

4. GENERAL. COMMENTS FROM SEVERAL EWG REPS, INCLUDING ITALY, NETHERLANDS, UK, AND CANADA REFLECTED DESIRE FOR CAUTIOUS, GENERALIZED APPROACH IN EWG FINAL REPORT ON BASIC ISSUES. US REP (BGENBOWMAN) RECOGNIZED NEED FOR ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS BUT STRONGLY EMPHASIZED OPPORTUNITY CURRENTLY AVAILABLE TO EWG FOR PROMOTING NATIONAL SUPPORT OF LONG-STANDING ALLIANCE FORCE GOALS. RUMSFELD

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